

Closing Reply

**Hearing 27B:
Natural Hazards and Climate
Change
General submissions**

prepared by

Yvonne Legarth

Date: 20 May 2021



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|----------|--|----------|
| 1 | Introduction | 3 |
| 2 | Evidence lodged by submitters | 3 |
| 3 | Summary | 4 |

I Introduction

1. I am the author of the RMA s42A report, rebuttal and opening statement for the natural hazards and climate change hearing General Submissions (Hearing 27B).
2. This closing reply deals with submissions addressed in Hearing 27B, being those that are more general, that are on Stage 2 or Variation 2 as a whole, or that apply to multiple parts of the plan. Other RMA section 42A reports deal with submissions on specific natural hazards, and on climate change.
3. A consolidated version of Chapter 15 has been prepared, reflecting recommended changes from all Hearing 27 reports. Copies have been circulated to the Hearings Panel and placed at the same website location as this reply.

2 Evidence lodged by submitters

4. Evidence relevant to the H27B general submissions topic was filed by the following submitters:
 - Mercury NZ Limited [2053]; [FS1223; FS1387 and FS3034]
Grant Webby: Hydraulic Engineering
Angus McKenzie: Planning
 - Federated Farmers New Zealand [2172] and [2173]; [FS1342 and FS3030]
Jesse Quentin: Planning
 - Ohinewai Lands Limited [FS3022]
Matthew Twose: Planning
 - Powerco [2100] and [FS3007] (tabled letter)
 - Genesis Energy Limited [2104]; [FS3006]
Richard Matthews: Planning
 - Ports of Auckland [2139] and [FS1087]
Mark Arbuthnot: Planning
 - Kāinga Ora [2094]; [FS3033]
Craig Sharman: Planning
 - Waikato Regional Council [81 and 2102]; [FS3031]
James Beban: Planning
Sarah Gunnell: Planning
 - Spark New Zealand [2040]; [FS3002]
Chris Horne: Planning
 - Fire and Emergency New Zealand [378]; [FS1114] (tabled letter)
 - Ministry of Education [2086] (tabled letter)
 - HNZPT [2107], [FS3013]
Carolyn McAlley: Planning
 - Brett Beamsley [2109]
Brett Beamsley: coastal science

- Transpower NZ Ltd [2101] and [FS3003] on 20 April 2021 (tabled letter)

3 Summary

5. This closing statement is for the matters considered in the H27 hearing on natural hazards and climate change. No new issues emerged at the hearing. I have no further or changed recommendations to make as a result of the evidence and presentations made by submitters at the hearing.
6. Submitters in their evidence drew attention to submissions that were not addressed in the s42A hearing reports. A further report is being prepared that will deal with these, including submissions on proposed Policies 15.2.1.1 to 15.2.1.3, and 15.2.1.11, and other submissions that were not discussed in the s42A reports on natural hazards and climate change. This supplementary report is being prepared for the final “wash-up” hearing scheduled for July 2021.
7. Commissioner Mitchell asked questions about proposed Policy 15.2.1.3. The submissions and my recommendations on this policy will be included in the supplementary report.
8. I have concluded that Stage 2, and the PWDP as amended by Variation 2 and the recommendations in this report, are within the functions of the council, that the objectives achieve the purpose of the RMA, and the policies and methods dealt with in this report are effective in implementing the objectives in the proposed plan.
9. I have concluded that the recommended amendments give better effect to the WRPS objectives and policies that deal with natural hazard risk than the provisions as notified.

Y Legarth